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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/703,312	11/01/2000	Ghulam Abbas Laljani	BELL-0055/00166	1375

49584 7590 02/10/2006

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EXAMINER
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AL AUBAIDI, RASHA S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2642

DATE MAILED: 02/10/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 09/703,312	<b>Applicant(s)</b> LALJIANI, GHULAM ABBAS	
	<b>Examiner</b> Rasha S. AL-Aubaidi	<b>Art Unit</b> 2642	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 November 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11, 13-16, 21-24, 26, 27 and 29-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11, 13-16, 21-24, 26-27 and 29-38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

1. Applicant's amendment filed on November 14, 2005 has been entered. Claims 1-3, 5, 7-11, 13-14, 16, 21-24, 26 and 30-38 have been amended. No further claims have been canceled. No claims have been added. Claims 1-11, 13-16, 21-24, 26-27, and 29-38 are still pending in this application, with claims 1, 16, 26, 30 and 38 being independent.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. Claims 1-11, 13-16, 21-24, 26-27, and 29-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morley et al (US PAT # 5,848,132) in view of Brennan et al (US PAT# 5,329,578) and in view of Crockett et al. (US PAT # 6, 539, 079).

Regarding claim 1, Morley teaches a system to schedule placement of calls comprising: a service switching point (SSP 2, see Fig.1) that is adapted to communicate with a first telephone station (this components is not shown, obviously it is there) associated with a scheduling party (this reads on the customer) and to communicate with at least one other telephone station associated with at least one scheduled party to receive the calls from the first telephone station (this reads on the other destination that the pre-booked call will be made at the specified time by the customer, see col.3, lines 53-54), wherein said first telephone station is adapted to receive call schedule information on a telephone interface and to communicate said call schedule information

(see col.3, lines 64-67) to said service switching point (SSP 2); a service node (SN, this reads on IP 15, for example, in Fig. 1) that is adapted to communicate with the service switching point (SSP 2); and a service control point (SCP this reads on SCP 8, see Fig.1) adapted to communicate with said service switching point (SSP 2), and comprising: an administrative computing application, a call scheduling application (for the use of an administrative computing application, a call scheduling computing application it would have been obvious to have these applications/software applied in the AIN environment in order to help improving and speeding the procedure of scheduling telephone calls in advance),and a call information database (this basically reads on SCP 8 storing the schedule information, see col.5, lines 7-8), wherein said service control point (SCP 8) and said service node (SN) place are configured a confirmation call (see col. 4, lines 13-28 and lines 47-52 also see Fig. 10).

Morley does not specifically teach said service control point (SCP) and said service node (SN) place a confirmation call to an alternate telephone station associated with said scheduling party.

However, Brennan teaches a method in a communications system for routing calls (see abstract). Routing the call would be based on routing schedule, which specified by the subscriber that is based on a current time of day (see col. 6, lines 50-68, col. 7, lines 1-15, and table 3.0 in col. 7). Brennan also teaches routing calls using a sequence of destinations (the sequence of destinations may reads on alternate

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telephone, see table 3.0 in col. 7 such as Home Car, Cottage).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the feature of routing calls to alternate telephone number, as taught by Brennan, into the Morley system in order to provide the convenience to the user/subscriber. Also, this will enhance the chances of reaching the scheduling party anywhere in order to confirm the conference information with him/her for example.

The combination of Morley and Brennan does not teach placement of outgoing calls and more specifically it does not teach the SN is actually adapted to place the outgoing calls.

However, Crockett teaches SN (280 as shown in Fig. 2) places outgoing telephone calls to telephone station (see col. 6, lines 20-31).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the feature of having the service node placing outgoing calls, as taught by Crockett, into the combination of Morley and Brennan in order to reduce the load on the SCP by having the service node (SN) performing some of the SCP functionalities.

Claims 11, 16, 26, 30, 34 and 38 are rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1. For claim 16, the features of (a) service switching point (SSP), accepting call schedule information from first telephone station, wherein call schedule information comprises time for the scheduled call, a date for the scheduled call, a telephone number for the scheduled call, and telephone number for the confirmation call (this basically read on providing the required information in order to schedule the call, see Fig. 3) and (d) monitoring said stored call schedule information by said service control point (SCP) to determine if a scheduled call is to be placed (this is obvious, because when the date and time reaches for the scheduled call since SCP 8, processes the connection of the call between the customer and the other destination). Regarding claim 26, the claimed feature of receiving a response from said first party indicating that said first party should be connected to said telephone station and connecting said first party to said telephone station (see col. 5, lines 52-67 and col.6, lines 1-8). The claimed feature of second telephone number at which said confirmation call should be placed (this basically reads on the scheduled party phone number, see col. 5, lines 8-10). Examiner takes official notice that the claimed feature of "the second telephone number is specified by the first party" is obvious and well known in the art. The first party/scheduling party can specify or choose the number that he/she wants the call or the confirmation to be placed to. Regarding claim 38, the claimed feature of "accepting information by the SSP from telephone interface indicative of calls to be

scheduled” is extremely obvious, since this step is nothing but to confirm that all the information provided such as date, time, and number(s) are accurate.

Claim 2 recites “the service switching point (SSP 2) upon receipt of a request from said first telephone station to schedule a call (this reads on the customer desire to schedule a call, see col.3, lines 53-64), is adapted to send a request to said service control point (SCP) to execute said administrative computing application and said call scheduling application, wherein said administrative computing application is adapted to determine if said first telephone station is allowed to schedule calls, and wherein said call scheduling application, upon confirmation that said first telephone station is allowed to schedule calls, is adapted to cooperating with said service switching point (SSP) to accept, store and manage call scheduling data”. Morley teaches that the service is available to the customer (see col.3, lines 64-65). In addition, services like call scheduling, call waiting, or call forwarding would not be provided to customers without subscription to these services.

Claim 3 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1. Also, for the feature of prompt said first telephone station to input call schedule information indicative of desired scheduled calls, this basically reads on the IP 15, for example in Fig.1 to enter the appropriate date and time (see col.4, lines 1-10).

Regarding claim 4, Morley teaches said prompts comprise information representative of: a request to enter the time of said scheduled call, a request to enter the frequency of said scheduled call, and a request to enter the telephone number for said scheduled call (see col.4, lines 1-20), and a request to enter the telephone number of said confirmation call (this is obvious, since it may read on the scenario of requesting a telephone number to where the confirmation call would be sent).

Claim 5 recites "call schedule application of said service control point (SCP) is adapted to create a record for each scheduled call and to store said record in said call information database". Morley teaches storing the record and the data information for each scheduled call (see col. 5, lines 42-51). If the reference teaches storing the record for one scheduled call then obviously it is possible to store the record in the database for other calls.

Regarding claims 6 and 8, Morley teaches the request to said service control point (SCP 8) from the service switching point (SSP 2) comprises information identifying a telephone station associated with said scheduling party to call at the time of a scheduled call (this basically reads on providing the scheduling party telephone number/CLID information with the other data in order to schedule the call, see col. 3, lines 53-60).



Regarding claims 7 and 22, Morley teaches service switching point (SSP) launches a trigger application (see col. 3, lines 53-60) in response to the request from said first telephone station, said trigger application generating the request to said service control point (SCP).

Regarding claim 9, Morley teaches said service control point (SCP 8), in response to the request from the service switching point (SSP 2), is configured to search said database for information identifying service nodes (SN) that are adapted to place calls to said scheduling party and to said scheduled party (see col. 4, lines 24-29).

Claim 10 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1 and 16. Morley teaches the SN, which reads on IP (15) may be used to complete the scheduled call and a request to place a confirmation call to the scheduling party, said service switching point (SSP 2) communicating with least one of said service nodes (SN) a request to place said confirmation call (see col. 4, lines 13-29).

Regarding claim 13, Morley teaches said service switch point (SSP) to place scheduled call to said scheduled party using said identified service node (SN), see col. 4, lines 59-65.

Claim 14 recites "call schedule application of said service control point (SCP), is adapted to, upon not receiving confirmation for said scheduled call, delete the created

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record for the scheduled call". This is obvious, because there is no sense of having the call-scheduled information occupying storage space in the database when there is no confirmation received to continue processing the pre-booking for this particular call.

Regarding claim 15, Morley teaches the connection between said service switching point (SSP) and said at least one other telephone station comprises a second service switching point (SSP 2). For example, see Fig.1, and col. 2, lines 44-56.

Claim 21 recites "said confirmation comprises at least one of: a DTMF code and an electronic message". This basically can read on the voice prompts (see col. 3, lines 40-43).

Regarding claim 23 recites "identifying to said service switching point (SSP) a plurality of cooperating service nodes (SN) for use when processing scheduled calls". See Fig.1, SSP 2, IP 15 and IP 16.

Claim 24 recites "identifying to the service switching point (SSP) the plurality of cooperating service nodes (SN), comprises transmitting the directory numbers corresponding to the plurality of service nodes (SN) by said service control point (SCP)". This reads on the transmitted digits between the customers' lines (see col. 2, lines 44-50).

The claimed feature of "information that is received from a telephone interface of a telephone station" as recited in claim 27 is inherent.

Regarding claim 29, Morley teaches said information further indicates a date (this basically reads on the scheduled party phone number, see col. 5, lines 7-10).

Claim 31 recites "said service control point (SCP) and said service node (SN) are adapted to place said confirmation call before said scheduled telephone call becomes due". This is obvious, because the purpose of placing confirmation is notify or alert the scheduling party or even the scheduled party about the occurrence of a conference call at a certain time and date.

Claim 32 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 31.

Claim 33 basically reads on the scenario of placing a confirmation that the conference is happening at this moment. Many references teach the feature of confirming the establishment of a conference call. Therefore this is obvious and well known in the art.

Regarding claims 35-37 features. Obviously it is beneficial to user/subscriber to have a confirmation call made to both destination (main telephone number and the

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alternate telephone number). This of course will increase the possibilities of receiving the confirmation by the user/subscriber at any location.

### ***Response to Arguments***

3. Applicant's arguments filed 11/14/2005 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rasha S AL-Aubaidi whose telephone number is (571) 272-7481. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad F. Matar, can be reached on (571) 272-7488.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rasha S. Al-Aubaidi', with a stylized flourish at the end.

RASHA S. AL-AUBAIDI  
PATENT EXAMINER  
**Art Unit 2642**  
**02/06/2006**